

PRESS RELEASE

Congressman Gary G. Miller
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Congressman Miller Introduces the LEAVE Act

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Miller introduced sweeping legislation to deliver an enforcement-first approach to solving our nation's immigration and border security problems. H.R. 6789, the Loophole Elimination and Verification Enforcement Act, also known as the LEAVE Act, will remove the incentives and loopholes in our current laws that encourage illegal aliens to come to the United States to live, work, and overstay their visas. In addition, the bill will give law enforcement the tools they need to protect our nation and communities.

“Currently, the United States has an illegal alien population of an estimated 12 million people and without prompt action that number will only continue to grow,” said Congressman Miller. “Each year, American taxpayers spend billions of dollars to provide health care, education, and incarceration to illegal immigrants. In these economically challenging times, there is no reason that hard-working American families should be forced to bear these costs.”

Among its provisions, the LEAVE Act dramatically tightens the forms of identification that may be accepted by the federal government and financial institutions; expands the E-Verify program to require all employers to confirm the work eligibility of their employees; and prevents illegals from receiving Social Security credit for illegally working in the United States. The LEAVE Act would also end birthright citizenship, exclude illegal aliens from receiving in-state college tuition, require the completion of the border fence, and mandate the hiring of 8,000 new Border Patrol agents and 3,000 ICE agents by 2012.

“With an enforcement strategy, loopholes will be closed and illegals will no longer be granted benefits and access to American jobs. By securing the border and ending the job magnet, illegals will lack incentives to cross the border and the illegal alien population will begin to dwindle,” added Congressman Miller. “The United States, already heavily burdened by our nation's failed immigration policies, cannot afford to wait any longer.”

Original cosponsors of the bill include Reps. John Campbell, David Dreier, Elton Gallegly, Dana Rohrabacher, John Boozman, David Davis, and Nathan Deal.

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